

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of this application as amended. Claims 7, 10-14, 18-21 and 24-25 were previously cancelled without prejudice. No claims have been amended or added. Therefore, claims 1-6, 8-9, 15-17 and 22-23 are presented for examination.

35 U.S.C. § 102 Rejection

Claims 1-6, 8-9, 15-17 and 22-23 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e), as being anticipated by Gao, U.S. Patent No. 6,581,094 (“Gao”).

Claim 1 recites:

A method comprising:

formulating a discovery information query at a console or at one or more network devices, the console includes a managing device for the one or more network device, wherein the discovery information query is initiated automatically or by a user;

sending the discovery information query to a search engine to facilitate searching of discovery information relevant to the one or more network devices, wherein the search engine includes a query formulation device to input one or more of the following parameters: type of network devices, status of network devices, and capabilities of network devices;

receiving the discovery information query;

retrieving one or more files from the one or more network devices, each file containing discovery information of a network device on which the file is stored; and

searching the discovery information in the one or more files based on the discovery information query.

(emphasis provided).

Applicants respectfully submit that Gao discloses a browser on a display device which is used to “display the contents of the UDD file, including identity attributes, system attributes, geography attributes” Further, a visual page is provided to allow a “user to interact with a displayed UDD file.” (col. 11, lines 25-36). However, having a UDD file with various attributes and allowing the user to interact with the displayed UDD file is **not the same** as inputting of parameters, such as type, status, and capabilities

of network devices, as part of a discovery information query via a query formulation device at the search engine, and searching one or more files based on the discovery information query, as recited by claim 1.

Furthermore, as discussed in previous communications, Gao discloses executing “[a] method executed by *one or more digital devices operating in a networked environment includes . . . storing a network address for each digital device in a set of digital devices within a networked environment . . . [and a] Uniform Device Descriptor file is associated with each digital device of the set of digital devices*” (Abstract). Gao further discloses “[t]he server preferably includes a search module . . . [to facilitate] searches for specified digital devices within the networked environment . . . [and] the routing module operates to deliver a specified UDD file to a selected digital device within the networked environment so that the UDD file may be visually displayed on the selected digital device” (col. 3, lines 42-51). Hence, Gao does not teach or reasonably suggest each and every element of claim 1. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request the withdrawal of the rejection of claim 1 and its dependent claims.

Claims 5 and 15 include limitations similar to those of claim 1. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request the withdrawal of the rejection of claims 5 and 15 and their dependent claims.

35 U.S.C. § 103 Rejection

Claim 17 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a), as being unpatentable over Gao in view of Vaishnavi, et al. U.S. Patent No. 5,734,642 (“Vaishnavi”).

Claim 17 depends from claim 15 and thus includes all the limitations of its base claim. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request the withdrawal of the rejection of claim 17.

Conclusion

In light of the foregoing, reconsideration and allowance of the claims is hereby earnestly requested.

Invitation for a Telephone Interview

The Examiner is requested to call the undersigned at (303) 740-1980 if there remains any issue with allowance of the case.

Request for an Extension of Time

Applicants respectfully petition for an extension of time to respond to the outstanding Office Action pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) should one be necessary. Please charge our Deposit Account No. 02-2666 to cover the necessary fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(a) for such an extension.

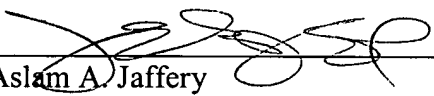
Charge our Deposit Account

Please charge any shortage to our Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: 11-29-05


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